

HOSPITAL HEALTH HAZARDS

sentatives, and health and safety personnel. In this way, action can be added to concern, awareness and knowledge so that the health of hospital personnel can be maintained and enhanced.

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Malignant Degeneration of Giant Hairy Nevus

DR. KREMENTZ: There's a debate about what percent of patients with giant hairy nevus will develop melanoma—it varies in the literature from 5 percent to 40 percent. I think most people like to get them removed, if you can do it without destroying the child psychologically.

DR. McBRIDE: We haven't been able to get a handle on the percentage of malignant degeneration. Everybody has gotten so used to the darn thing [hairy nevus] that the malignant degeneration occurs and isn't noticed . . . They should come off.

DR. KREMENTZ: We're seeing more of these kids coming in with malignant development in congenital nevus in the last two years. I think we've had three in our center. One was controlled and two have died of disease. It can be a very devastating tumor when it takes off.

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